

Marijuana Leaf Identification Technician Course

September 12th-16th, 2005

September 26th-29th, 2005

October 3rd-6th, 2005*

November 7th – 10th, 2005**

December 5th – 8th, 2005***

****=Held at Logan PD***

*****=Held at Vernal PD***

******= Held at Sevier County S.O.
(Richfield)***



Figure 1- Officer performing microscopic test for marijuana

The Utah Department of Public Safety will be hosting two 4-day Marijuana Leaf Identification Technician Courses in September of 2005 at the Educational Development Center located at:

**5681 South 320 West
Murray, Utah 84107**

We will also be hosting this class at three offsite locations for 2005.

This information packed course will provide the necessary training to law enforcement officers and analysts in the identification of crushed marijuana submissions in order to facilitate their acceptance as subject matter experts in the courtroom setting.

This **intensive** 4-day course covers the botany, chemistry and analysis of marijuana preparations and each applicant will be required to **pass** 3 written examinations, a laboratory competency test, ten mock cases as well as examine and chemically test several hundred botanical exhibits. **(Warning: It is not recommended that a candidate take this course unless they can apply their full resources to studying and preparing for each days examinations and lessons. The demand of the course is similar to the DRE program).**

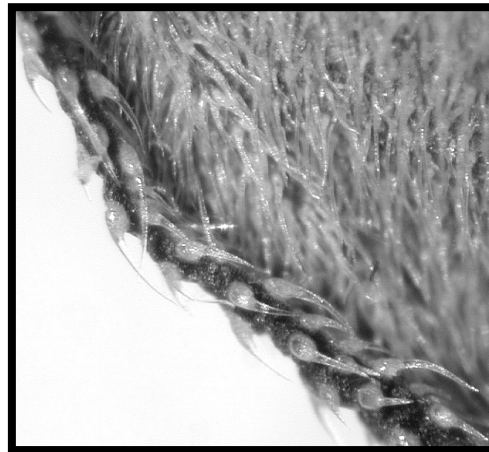


Figure 2- Stereoscopic view of marijuana at 40X

After successful completion of this course, the marijuana leaf technician will assume responsibility for all of their agency's marijuana submissions and this class represents the opportunity to move into this new environment with trained analysts. **As a reminder, no marijuana evidence will be accepted at the state lab for processing after Dec. 31st, 2005.**

In the future, the laboratory will serve as an advisor/mentor but will not provide marijuana analysis to agencies. If an agency does not have a qualified marijuana leaf technician, a list will be provided to interested agencies of qualified technicians in their area that may be able to assist them in the analysis of marijuana.

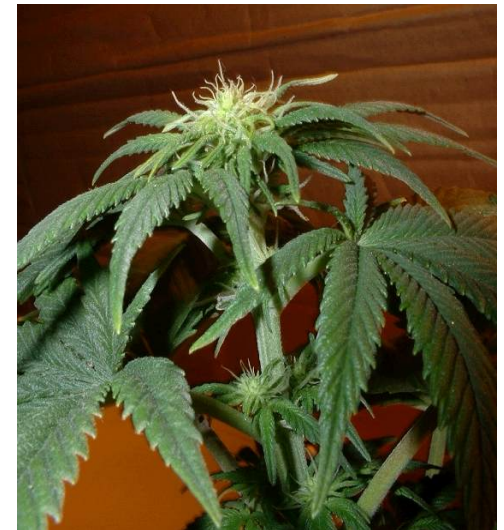


Figure 3- Gross morphological features of female marijuana plant

Other benefits:

- Your agency will be able to process, test and testify to marijuana cases in your jurisdiction
- Your technician will be able to train other officers and the public on marijuana recognition
- Faster case turnaround time
- Less evidence transferred out of your evidence room
- The opportunity to recover cost and pay for the program through your local and city courts/fines

What else can you expect?

- You will be given all training information and resource material
- A certificate of qualification to serve as official documentation of your subject matter expertise
- Some moot court experience/questions that are the basis of most direct testimony and cross examination in the field of marijuana analysis
- Record keeping and case note instruction for scientific processes

Who Should Attend?

- Crime Scene/Lab Personnel
- Evidence Room Technicians
- Narcotic Task Force/Squad Members
- Detectives

Requirements:

1. Marijuana Leaf Identification Technician candidates must complete a registration form at <http://forensicservices.utah.gov/> and send it to Georgia at Gdifranc@utah.gov.

2. Candidates **must** have required equipment before attending class. You can start up a program for under \$1200.00 and maintain it for about \$120.00 year. A list of current equipment requirements may be found at the following website:

<http://forensicservices.utah.gov/>

3. A \$50.00 registration fee **must** be made payable to: **Utah Department of Public Safety** and sent to the following address at the time of electronic registration (this will guarantee a spot):

**Forensic Services
Attn: MJ Registration
(Utah State Crime Lab)
4501 South 2700 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84119**

4. For more information, please contact Jay Henry at 801-965-4093 or jhenry@utah.gov



Figure 4 - Officer interpreting the chemical results of the Duquenois-Levine color test for marijuana

Bonus Material:

The laboratory has also incorporated a Narcotics Identification Kit and class into the Marijuana Identification Technician Program. Each agency will be given a kit which will allow them to screen for the following drugs:

- Methamphetamine
- Cocaine
- Heroin